

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 22 as follows. Please cancel Claim 2 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An isolated ~~neuron survival-promoting~~ peptide consisting of the sequence of CHEASAAQC (SEQ ID NO.: 1) or ~~a variant thereof, said variant comprising between 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions of SEQ ID NO.: 1, and said variant including~~ CAHAQAESC (SEQ ID NO.: 2).

2. (Canceled) The neuron survival-promoting peptide of claim 1, said peptide having 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions.

3. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising the ~~neuron survival-promoting~~ isolated peptide of claim 1, in a biologically acceptable carrier.

4-21. (Previously Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A kit ~~for treating a neurodegenerative disorder or inflammatory disorder in a patient~~ comprising:

- a) an isolated peptide consisting of the sequence of CHEASAAQC (SEQ ID NO.: 1), or ~~a variant thereof, said variant comprising between 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions of SEQ ID NO.: 1, and said variant including~~ CAHAQAESC (SEQ ID NO.: 2);
- b) a pharmaceutical excipient; and optionally
- c) a vehicle for administration, such as a syringe or catheter, and instructional material.

23-24. (Previously Canceled)